

Missouri Universal Service Board

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday, August 13, 2003

1:30 p.m.

Missouri Public Service Commission

PSC Agenda Room, 9th Floor

Governor Office Building

200 Madison Street

Jefferson City, Missouri

Those present at the meeting were: John Coffman (JC), Steve Gaw (SG), Bryan Forbis (BF), Kelvin Simmons (KS), Connie Murray (CM), Robert Clayton (RC), staff members of PSC, OPC, and members of the public.

Chair John Coffman called the meeting to order at 1:50 p.m.

J C	S G	B F	K S	C M	R C
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A

1. Review and Consideration of Selection Committee Recommendation Regarding Bids for Fund Administrator

Chair Coffman moved to close the meeting per section 610.021(12). Kelvin Simmons seconded.

John Coffman noted one bidder offered to establish a "Chinese Wall" between company staff working on Universal Service Fund and those otherwise doing Missouri advocacy, but would not commit that all offices would refrain from advocacy with Missouri companies.

Connie Murray stated she was still concerned with a conflict of interest; the "Chinese Wall" would not be sufficient

Discussion of options. Given the concerns, possible courses of action include rebid with potential exclusion of telecommunications experience to broaden bidder pool, have PSC staff manage the Universal Service Fund, or ask another state agency.

It was suggested that staff review the RFP for possibility of changing it to expand the bidder base – include financial institutions as options and ask PSC telecommunications staff to provide technical assistance as needed.

Connie Murray moved to reject the bids. Kelvin Simmons seconded.

J C	S G	B F	K S	C M	R C
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Steve Gaw moved to table the motion to reject the bids until the next meeting. Secretary Bryan Forbis seconded.

Motion was made and seconded to go to open session.

Adjourned at 3:08 p.m.

Chairman

Date Approved